

St Anthony of Padua

Presbytery: Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3RX
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Website: www.stanthonys-rc-church-preston.org.uk/

Priest: Fr. Peter Draper. (Tel: 725193)
Deacon (retired): Rev. Tom Butler

Sunday Masses: 6.00pm (Saturday Vigil), 9.30am.
Weekday Mass: Mon-Wed, Fri: 9.15am. (Thurs 9.15am at Holy Family)
Confessions: 5.30—5.50pm

Annexe: 725544 Social Centre: 735963 Primary school: 726621
Playgroup/Preschool 07963 700591

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A Daily Rendezvous With God

In some way our prayer is diagnostic of our life. How we pray says much about our relationship with God. The early church fathers, when greeting each other, did not ask about health, life, family, or anything else. Instead, they would ask, "How is your prayer?" [1] 'So when one of the disciples sees that Jesus "was in a certain place praying," and asks him "Teach us to pray," we can be pretty sure the disciple is asking for more than simply words or techniques. There is a longing and desire deep within him. [2]

'In Jesus' teaching and example, we notice the prayer of words in the Our Father and his encouragement to "ask" and "knock". But Jesus also taught prayer beyond words: *praying in secret* (Matt 6:5-6), *not babbling on as the Gentiles do* (Matt 6:7), *or his pre-dawn, lonely prayer* (Mark 1:35), because *your Father knows what you need even before you ask* (Matt 6:8). We need 'unsaying' prayer, the prayer of quiet or contemplative prayer, to balance out and ground all 'saying' prayer.' [3]

Today's first reading and the gospel reading emphasise persistence in prayer. 'We need a daily rendezvous with God, with nothing on our agenda but love. There we will be taken to the deeper place where we discover the spark of the divine that is in our hearts' [4] 'While our prayer of words is an attempt to *express to ourselves* our relationship with the Great Mystery, the prayer of silence is not so much to express but to *experience* that mutuality. We acknowledge and rejoice that we are the beloved. We sit and wait until we know this truth in our body and in our memory. Anything we stay with long enough changes us, not God' [3] 'God gives God's self as the answer to our every prayer.' [2]

The Salt Doll [5]

A salt doll journeyed for thousands of miles over land, until it finally came to the sea. It was fascinated by this strange moving mass, quite unlike anything it had ever seen before. "Who are you?" said the salt doll to the sea. The sea smilingly replied, "Come in and see." So the doll waded in. The farther it walked into the sea the more it dissolved, until there was only very little of it left. Before that last bit dissolved, the doll exclaimed in wonder, "Now I know what I am!"

[1] Theophan the Recluse
[5] Anthony de Mello

[2] Michael Marsh

[3] Richard Rohr

[4] James Finley

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
24th July 2022 missal 1029

DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 23rd July 2022

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Bernard Ward	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Joan Green For our parish	<i>17th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Good Shepherd Fund Collection</i>
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Special Intention (JW)	<i>Feast: St. James</i>
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Dave Smith	<i>Feast: Ss Joachim & Anne</i>
Wed 9.15pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joan & Leonard Airey	7.00pm 'The Chosen' film night.
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Special Intention	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Alice Doherty	<i>Feast: Ss. Mary Martha & Lazarus</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joseph Morrison	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Maureen Fraser For our parish	<i>18th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>

Last Weekend: Attendance: 188 (85, 103) Offertory: £598.39.
Apostleship of the Sea: £12.40. Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Joan & Leonard Airey, Anthony Peers, Special Intention (JW).

Livestreaming Mass

The 9.30am Sunday Mass from St. Anthony's church is livestreamed. Go to the St. Anthony of Padua YouTube page for the link.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Mary Lawler, Mandy Davis, Frank Stanton, Jo Counsell, Alice Myerscough, Chris Goldsmith, Theresa Wilkinson, Bill Embery, Carole Adnitt, Gary Adnitt, Les Farrer, Rev. Tom Butler.

We pray for the souls of those who have died recently:

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Letty Lawrenson, Frank Coates, Elizabeth Clarkson, Jenny Whiteside, Joseph Rigby, Mary Winifred Howarth, Dorothy Whalley, Maureen Fraser, Joseph Morrison, Jean McGinty, Margaret Watson, Joan Airey. May they rest in peace.

Happy holidays!

Our schools have broken up this week. We thank our headteachers and staff for their dedication to the children throughout the year. We also wish them and the children a happy and safe time of rest and recovery.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage

Several parishioners are in Lourdes this week with our Diocese. They will be remembering us on their pilgrimage and we keep them in our prayers too.

Padua Room Coffee Morning

Thanks to everyone who supported our parish SVP Group Coffee Morning last Sunday on the 30th Anniversary of the start of the SVP in the parish. They are happy to welcome new members to join in their work.

St Walburge's Summer Fair

Next Sunday 31st July from 12.30 to 4.00 pm. With Grand Raffle, Cakes, Tombolas, Bric-a-Brac, Toys, Games, Go-Kart Simulator, Church tours & Climb Spire. All proceeds to the restoration of the rose window.

The relics of St Bernadette Soubirous

- will be taken around the Dioceses of England & Wales this summer. They will be in our Cathedral in Lancaster from 22nd to 23rd September and in Carlisle the following day. The patroness of our Diocese is Our Lady of Lourdes.

Society for the Protection of the Unborn child (S.P.U.C.)

There is a Preston office from which they operate their telephone work. They are seeking volunteers to assist their work. The office is at 10 Lockside Road, Preston. PR2 2YS. Email caroleadamson@spuc.org.uk or call 01772 258580

Annual Pilgrimage to Cleator

Early notice. The Annual Pilgrimage to the Diocesan shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes at Cleator will take place on Sunday 11th September. The principal celebrant and preacher will be Bishop Paul. The theme is 'Our Lady, Help of Christians.'

Notice Board

Bernadette recently revamped the notice board in the porch and she continues to update it regularly. Take a look at it either when entering or leaving church.

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Film Nights – The Chosen

We will continue to meet over the summer to watch series 2. In the Padua Room on Wednesdays at 7.00pm. Details from Jackie Stopyra on 07934 667292.